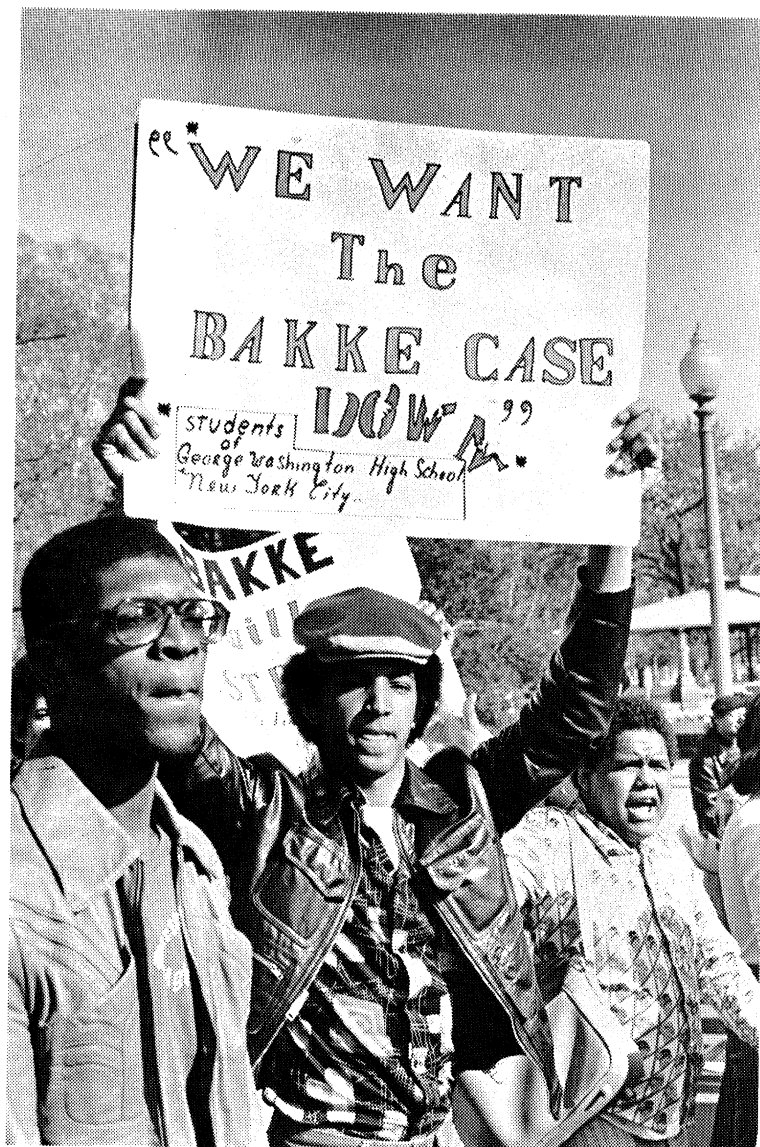


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Credit: LNS Graphics

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New York, New York 10011

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Telephone: (212) 989-3555

Hours: 9 AM to 7 PM

STAFF COLLECTIVE: Cathy Cockrell, Joan Gibbs, Laura  
Landy, Andy Marx, Milton Taam

COMRADES: Frank Forrestal, Michael Scurato

GRAPHIC ARTISTS: Peg Averill, Dave Hereth, Michael  
Scurato

LEGAL COUNSEL: Stolar, Alterman & Gulielmetti

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### Collective Notes

Along with this week's packet we're sending two extra items—a poster advertising openings on the LNS staff and our particular interest in women and third world applicants, and a small display ad to the same effect. As a service to people interested in movement work and to LNS, we hope you'll put up the poster in a prominent place in your office and will run the ad in your newspaper. It will mean a *big* difference for our work once we can fill out our staff with a few more hands. Thanks for your help in passing the word.

The Bakke demonstration April 15 in Washington D.C., supporting affirmative action programs endangered by the case, drew a large, spirited crowd of participants and represented a significant response to the recent upsurge of organized racism in the U.S. Interestingly, despite a turn-out of 15,000 people and the prominence of the issue in the news over the past months, news of the demonstration was noticeably absent from commercial media reporting. The incident reconfirms the importance of media like LNS—where you *can* hear of such developments. (See page 1.)

Other stories that you may want to make special note of are those filed from France and Italy as the Italian state intensifies repression and abuses of civil liberties on the pretext of reacting to Aldo Moro's kidnapping.

And again inside the U.S., a Navajo community located in southern Utah has closed down the pumps that extract black gold for the oil corporations from Indian land. The people are occupying company offices until they can get action on a list of grievances over oil company employees' relation to the community and company policies on the local environment. An on-the-spot account from Utah describes this significant development.

(See graphics)

## Thousands March in D.C. to Overturn Bakke Decision

WASHINGTON, D.C. (LNS)—“We can’t go back; send Bakke back! We won’t go back; send Bakke back!” More than 15,000 demonstrators marched through the streets of Washington, D.C. on April 15 in a national day of protest against the Bakke “reverse discrimination” decision, now being reviewed by the Supreme Court.

A brisk wind whipped the hundreds of red, green, yellow and blue banners that proclaimed various movements’ opposition to the Bakke decision—among them third world, labor, student, women and gay organizations. The protesters gathered at the Ellipse in back of the White House—over two-thirds of the people in the crowd were third world and many came from cities as far away as Cleveland, Chicago, Detroit, Boston and Nashville. One demonstrator, a middle-aged black woman from Detroit, told LNS that she had ridden in a bus for 10 hours to show her support for affirmative action programs threatened by the Bakke decision. “Sure I’m tired,” she said as she rested for a few minutes on a bench. “But this case is too important for any of us to get tired and quit.”

After a short rally at the Ellipse the demonstrators headed down Constitution Avenue, past federal buildings toward the Supreme Court. The march was led by several thousand Black students from predominantly Black universities including Maherry Medical School in Nashville, Tennessee, Howard University in Washington, D.C., Morgan State University in Baltimore and Atlanta Community College in Georgia.

As they reached the Supreme Court, each wave of demonstrators joined the rest to encircle the building, chanting, “Beat Bakke Back!”

The Supreme Court, which now consists of a majority of conservative judges appointed by Richard Nixon during his reign at the White House, agreed to hear the case of Allen Bakke last fall. Bakke, a 34-year-old white aerospace engineer, was denied admission by 15 of the 15 medical schools to which he applied and was twice denied admission to the University of California at Davis Medical School. Bakke filed a suit against Davis in 1974 charging that he was the victim of “reverse discrimination.” He contended that he was rejected from Davis because of a special admissions program which reserved 16 out of 100 positions for third world students (even though he was actually twentieth on the school’s waiting list).

Bakke’s suit against the school was successful in California courts. Despite efforts by California civil rights and education activists to prevent the University from appealing the case to the Supreme Court, where a decision would have national implications, the University did so. UC Davis’ appeal of

the case has been questioned by activists who charged that the University has presented a weak defense throughout. They have also criticized the University’s policy of reserving a set number of admission slots for students with wealthy and politically influential parents.

And most of all, they have challenged the very notion of “reverse discrimination” in a country where the effects of 350 years of discrimination against Black people still spew out of government computers in statistical form for all to see. Just a few days before the march, a report in the *New York Times* highlighted the brutal hypocrisy of charging “reverse discrimination” at medical schools.

The *Times* found that the latest government figures showed an infant mortality rate in central Harlem more than three times that in white neighborhoods elsewhere in New York City. At the same time central Harlem’s population of 159,000 is served by only 50 doctors in private practice, less than one-fifth the national average for a community that size.

From the Supreme Court, the marchers went to the Capitol to participate in a rally.

“We will continue to march until we get what we were promised—equality and justice,” Ramon Antonia Rodriguez, a Mexican-American activist told the crowd. Rodriguez also denounced the “myth of reverse discrimination” which views any gains by third world people and women as taking away from the rights of those in power in this country.

Jimmy Garrett, a professor of political science at Howard University addressed the rally:

“We say no to racism. We say no to sexism. We say no to Carter. We say no to those eight white men on the Supreme Court.”

A rank and file member of the United Mine Workers Union described the “inseparable bond between the fight against racism and the fight against the coal companies just waged by the coal miners.” He also talked about the lessons the mine workers had learned from their recent strike which also apply to the fight against the Bakke decision—namely that people had to “rely on their own strength rather than friends in high places” to achieve their goals.

“You never win anything in a contract but what they try to take back,” the miner told the rally, defining the current attack on unions as part of the current corporate and state attack on the hard-won gains made by third world people in the past decade.

The May Day Singers, a group of third world musicians from New York City performed several songs. Everyone joined in the refrain of one which had been chanted throughout the march: “I’m fired up, can’t take it no more. I’m fired up, won’t take it no more!”

The large, energetic national

demonstration received only the most minimal news coverage in the commercial media. The *New York Times*, for instance, did not breathe a word about the action.

According to Bernard Hughes, a member of the National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision, the committee will be meeting shortly to discuss future actions and map out plans for when the Supreme Court decision is handed down.

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## Louisiana Women Prisoners Protest Warden’s Patronage and Racism

NEW YORK (LNS)—Prisoners in the Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women in St. Gabriel, La. are protesting the tyranny of a fanatically religious warden. Women prisoners there who agree to attend Warden Victor Walker’s regular Friday night prayer meetings are meted out favors in the prison. And while Walker actively recruits whites for the meetings, he discourages Black women from coming.

The American Civil Liberties Union, acting on behalf of the prisoners, filed a suit on March 3 demanding that the warden cease using his position to force inmates to accept his religious beliefs. The suit charges that the warden’s practices violate constitutional separation of church and state and are doubly discriminatory because of the patronage and racism connected with church attendance. A hearing on the suit will be held in Baton Rouge beginning in early May.

Walker’s activities first drew public attention in February when the *New Orleans Times Picayune* published reports that he had conducted exorcism rites on prisoner Jacqueline McCrary, promising to “purge her soul of the devil,” and refusing to release McCrary despite her protests.

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## Court Rules Against Job Safety

NEW YORK (LNS)—In a ruling sure to delight corporation heads, a U.S. Court of Appeals in St. Louis has found that a sum as low as \$6,500 may be too much for a company to be forced to pay for job safety. The judges threw out an order by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration that all package loaders and sorters at a freight company be provided with safety shoes.

Even though the court recognized that falling packages had caused some foot injuries, it stated that the cost of equipping all the workers with steel-toed shoes (estimated at \$6,468) was unreasonably high. The judges suggested instead that the company instruct workers to wear leather shoes instead of sneakers.

As *Business Week* noted, “The most  
(continued on page 10)

## Navajos Occupy Utah Oil Field; Demand End to Corporate Exploitation

By Tom Barry  
Liberation News Service

MONTEZUMA CREEK, Utah (Navajo Times/LNS)—For thirty years the Navajos who make their homes in the isolated Aneth Valley of southern Utah have lived side by side with hundreds of massive wells operated by huge oil corporations. In mid-March they expressed their opposition to the decades of corporate exploitation of their oil wealth by suddenly stopping the pumps.

It was back in the beginning of this century that oil companies first started exploring the reserves of the Aneth Oil Field. In the 1920's, encouraged by the Department of Indian Affairs, the companies began signing leases; but it was not until the 1950's that they started exploiting their leases on this northern part of the Navajo reservation.

The Aneth leases, many of which were not even signed by tribal officials, gave the companies very attractive terms for a contract period of 99 years. And the limited royalty payments that the companies agreed upon went not to the people of the affected Navajo chapters, but to the tribal government, 150 miles away in Window Rock, Arizona.

After almost three decades living atop an active oil field, the people of Aneth and Montezuma Creek say that oil company exploitation of the underground wealth of their land has not meant a better life. On the contrary, they explain that it has killed their cattle, destroyed their environment, and disrupted their lifestyle.

Angered by the ever-worsening situation, especially after a young Navajo boy was fired on by oil company employees attempting to steal a family goat, a local group of Navajos on March 30 occupied the main pump station of Texaco, the largest oil producer in the area. The protesters then proceeded swiftly but peacefully to shut down all oil operations in the Aneth Oil Field.

The pumps still remain frozen and the occupying force has grown to a thousand supporters.

### Demand End to Exploitation

Headquartered at the Texaco offices near Montezuma Creek, the occupiers have issued a detailed list of demands to the four oil companies of the Aneth Field—Texaco, Phillips, Superior and Continental Oil. The companies have so far refused to jointly negotiate directly with the occupiers, but have met with Navajo Tribal Chairman Peter MacDonald and Department of Interior officials.

The occupiers, led by the Utah chapter of the Coalition for Navajo Liberation (CNL), sent the companies a petition signed by over 140 people and an extensive list of demands,

labelled **The Resolution of the Concerned Dine Residing in the Aneth Oil Fields.**

"The oil companies are wholly responsible for the large scale damage and destruction to our land," states the Aneth Resolution. "And their careless and irresponsible exploration and extraction activities for oil and gas have caused the destruction of countless livestock and have destroyed countless acres of grazing land and are responsible for various health problems among our people."

The main demands include: renegotiation of the oil contracts to emphasize the participation and needs of local landowners; compensation to Navajos for lost cattle and damaged grazing land; oil company renegotiation of contracts with local power companies to make electricity and gas available to those Navajos without it; increased hiring of Navajos in the fields; and an end to harassment of local people by the oil company employees.

Tribal Chairman MacDonald and his executive assistant Samuel Pete have met with company officials in Phoenix and expressed support for the protesters. The tribe has helped with food supplies and has not threatened the occupiers with eviction.

In a statement to the oil companies and the press, MacDonald said that the contracts in the Aneth Oil Field were dated and in need of revisions, and that the U.S. Geological Survey had failed to properly monitor the operations of the oil companies.

"This week I personally went out there," said MacDonald, "and what I was told (about problems with the companies) was shocking."

Aneth residents told MacDonald, for example, that Indian women have been molested by oil company employees who have brought alcohol and drugs onto the reservation and have stolen Navajo sheep and livestock.

MacDonald agreed with the occupiers that the complaints were "very real" and that they demonstrated how "the federal government had completely sold out the Indians."

"In many cases," he said, "when the leases were negotiated in the 1920's and '30's they were done without the knowledge of the Indian people themselves."

The oil companies have responded with a statement delivered to the occupiers, that they would agree to the formation of a Complaint Review Committee to review some of the grievances. The company statement admitted the possibility of some outstanding claims against the company for compensation to local people.

"Oil companies recognize the deeply held reverence that the Dine have for the land and recognize that the companies have a commitment to protect the environment in keeping with good oil field management," noted the company proposal for the Complaint Committee.

Yet the oil companies ignored most

of the demands of the Aneth occupiers. Concerning the demand for lease renegotiation, the companies said they "respectfully refuse" to submit to lease negotiations.

### Occupiers Intend to Stay

Up at the occupied Texaco pump stations and offices, the protesters have refused to officially respond to the companies' offer.

Larry Anderson, a member of the American Indian Movement (AIM) and spokesperson for the occupiers said in an interview at the occupied site that they only want to negotiate with the top national officials of the oil companies.

Sitting in the main Texaco office renamed "Eagles' Nest," Anderson said: "We have been very peaceful and we are eager to negotiate with the companies. But we only want to talk with people who really make decisions for the company, the top officials of the oil companies, not the local representatives."

"People here have been suffering for so long and they don't intend to get ripped off any longer. The companies have to understand that when they ask us to leave they are asking for the impossible," said Anderson, about the companies' demand that the occupiers end the takeover before they sit down to talk.

"For too long, non-Indians have been making decisions about Indians. Now is the time when we start turning things around—making decisions ourselves and controlling our own lives," asserted Anderson.

### Occupiers United

Everywhere at the occupation headquarters the determination expressed by Anderson is evident.

The occupiers have established their own elaborate security system, thoroughly checking all incoming vehicles to keep out arms and drugs. Security teams have drawn up contingency plans to prepare for any police attack on the occupation.

For the school age occupiers, a Montezuma Creek Survival School, modelled after other AIM schools throughout the country, is now in operation at the Texaco headquarters. And pasted up on the walls of the oil company offices are posters and cartoons illustrating the problems in Aneth and attacking the policies and attitudes of the companies.

"Our young people can't talk about the problems but they show by their drawings how they feel," said Anderson. The art work shows sheep dying from drinking polluted water, gas pipelines running underground while people go without heat, and the scarred landscape of the oil field.

The occupiers—from Navajo elders to young children—have made the Texaco headquarters a home until their demands are met. Kitchens serving fry bread and mutton stew have been set up by the women, sleeping arrangements established, and work details

assigned. All over the Texaco building, there is a feeling of confidence and determination.

The occupiers feel strong and united and have received resolutions of endorsement for their militant action from both the Red Mesa and Aneth chapters. "The Aneth Chapter even sent us a \$200 contribution. What more could we ask for as a sign of support?" said Anderson happily.

The unity of the Aneth community is largely attributable to the organization work by the Utah chapter of the Coalition of Navajo Liberation, which has its main office in Shiprock. Calvin Thomas, coordinator of CNL, said that CNL has made many of the key decisions that led up to the occupation, but he emphasized that the people who live in the Aneth fields are all acting out of their own bitterness about the area oil companies.

Thomas, a former oil company employee himself, said that CNL chose the oil company as its main target because of the racism of the companies and the way they exploit the Navajo resources. Thomas talked about the companies' "dollar vision" as a reason, for example, for their refusal to control the gas fumes that result from their pumping. "The atmosphere is full of gas," he noted, and when there is no breeze, you can smell gas all over the area, and the people all get stuffy and have respiratory problems."

Ella Sakizzie, an elderly Navajo woman protestor, told how the land has gotten dryer and less green ever since the companies have started drilling. "We used to have many more trees and green bushes. But now the land looks poor because of all the drilling and company roads. When it rains or snows the oil and chemicals from the drilling sites get mixed up with the water and drains all over the land.

"And our animals are dying too. I used to have 300 sheep, but now I only have 40. They are dying because of the bad water and all the chemicals around. When you open the intestines of the dead sheep, you can find little hard rocks of white chemicals that the sheep can't digest.

"Throughout the years, all of the water supplies have become polluted. The water tastes like salt and oil now. It used to be that you could go over the hill to get fresh spring water, but now you have to go all the way to Cortez."

"I hope the companies leave because they have done no good for the people. Only the outsiders benefit from the oil wells."

Ella Sakizzie lately has been feeling a bit more hopeful about the situation in Aneth:

"When the oil companies first came, the people were told that they didn't have any choice in allowing the drilling to start. The people were uneducated and didn't know any better. They were told that it wasn't their land, but the federal government's. Now people know better and are starting to fight back. We are standing up for the first time and speaking for ourselves.

"And the young people and the old

people are working together; they are united in fighting the company. The young people realize that the older Navajos have gone through many of the same things that they are now going through and that they can learn a lot from listening to the old people talk. At night, we sit around together and the old people tell how many of the problems get started."

The lack of Indian employment is another problem that angers the people of Aneth.

"Over 90 per cent of the company employment is non-Indian," said Lorraine Thomas. "I used to work for the companies and saw how they always put outsiders in the open positions. They sent out applications to other states, but never let people here know that there were job positions available," she said.

"We're not going to leave here until we know where all the money goes," said Thomas. "We started the occupation with many questions about how much money is being made off our land and about where the money goes. Talking together and investigating the leases we are starting to better understand exactly how we are 'ripped off.' "The companies," Thomas concluded, "are going to have to know that they aren't going to take our land and life away from us anymore."

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*(This article first appeared in the Navajo Times, published in Window Rock, Arizona. Tom Barry is also a reporter for the Rio Grande Weekly in Albuquerque, New Mexico and contributes regularly to LNS from the southwest.)*

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### **Supporters Say "Frame" in Case of Cherokee Charged With Oklahoma Girl Scout Murders**

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**by Peg Averill  
Liberation News Service**

ADAIR COUNTY, Okla. (LNS)—Last summer, a brutal group murder of three children rocked the state of Oklahoma. Lori Lee Farmer, 8, Michele Guse, 9, and Dorothy Denise Milner, 10, were beaten and strangled while sleeping in a tent at a Girl Scout camp in the Locust Grove area of Mayes County. Sexual assault was alluded to but never stated by any one connected with the investigation. Within 10 days of the crime, a warrant was issued for the arrest of Gene Leroy Hart, a fullblood Cherokee who had escaped from Mayes County Jail and had been hiding since September 13, 1973.

Hart, a former Locust Grove football star and steelworker, was captured at the home of Sam Pigeon, 60, of Cookson Hills, Mayes County, where he had been hiding since August. Hart's past criminal record includes burglary, kidnapping and one rape conviction. After his latest arrest, he was charged with the three murders

plus three burglaries that had taken place in the area since his 1973 escape.

Sam Pigeon is a fullblood Cherokee who speaks little English, works as a field hand and lives in the three-room shack without running water or other conveniences where he was born 60 years ago. He is well-respected and well-liked by local residents. Pigeon has repeatedly stated his belief in Hart's innocence, and in response to questioning, stated flatly: "I hid him. I hid him because he didn't do it." Pigeon has since been charged with harboring a fugitive.

Some local residents have also said they don't believe Hart to be guilty. Welling postmistress Mrs. Joe Goss said she had her doubts, while Mrs. Gaylor, operator of Welling's combination post office, general store and filling station, commented: "If Sam did this, he must have felt Hart was innocent. I don't believe Sam would ever hide anyone guilty of such a crime."

Mrs. Mary Joe Potts, operator of Cookson Bar, started a jar for contributions to Hart's defense with her own five dollars, admitting Hart's friends weren't giving like she thought they would. Ben Joyce, a customer at the bar looked at the jar and said, "Sure, Gene's innocent, but I don't have no money."

Cherokee activists in the area agree, and have turned out to support Hart and yell encouragement each day that he has been brought to Mayes County District Court from the Mayes County Jail in Pryor, the county seat. Some have expressed confidence that AIM (the American Indian Movement) will step in and support Hart. The defense team, made up of lawyers from the Native American Center in Oklahoma City, includes an acquaintance of Hart's—a young lawyer named Gary Pichlynn. Other team members are Garvin Issacs and R.L. "Duke" Wheeler.

But the most verbal principal in the case is Mayes County Sheriff Pete Wheller, the man responsible for the jail from which Hart has twice escaped:

"There are people that say he didn't do it. They say we spent all these months looking for the wrong man. He might not have killed the girls but that will have to be proven in court where a case is won or lost on facts. But to say we spent our time looking for the wrong man, I can't understand. If the evidence leads us in one direction we follow that evidence until we have other facts to go on. If the people don't have faith in their sheriff, the OSBI (Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation), and the FBI, then I would be moving."

Indian activists including Wilma Mankiller of the Cherokee Survival Organization state that law enforcement officers never looked for other suspects before indicting Hart. And if all evidence leads to Hart, and he's been charged with the crime for 11 months now, they ask, why then was District Attorney John W. Russell talking about new suspects in early April?

"We met yesterday [April 10] and we are looking at several people as suspects," he stated. Speculation here is that the prosecution's case is not strong enough to withstand public scrutiny, and that it hopes to reinforce its claims that a fair trial can be had in Mayes County. The Defense has filed a change of venue motion, hoping to have the case tried elsewhere.

Meanwhile, Sheriff Weaver is surprised that Hart was brought in for trial at all:

"I thought they would have to smoke [shoot] him."

Donations may be sent to the Gary Leroy Hart Defense Fund, c/o Native American Center, 1212 N. Hudson, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

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*(Peg Averill is a graphic artist and activist who contributes art work regularly to LNS. She is currently in Oklahoma.)*

### **Indochina War Lobbyist Returns to Washington; Calls for Open Door to Those Who Fled Liberated S.E. Asia**

VENICE, Cal. (LNS)—No lobbyists were more successful in the late 1950's and early 1960's than those who asked for and received guns, troops, money and time to intervene in Indochina. Some of the lobbyists have returned to Washington recently, operating under the name of the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and calling for a "generous policy for the admission of Indochinese refugees." The *Los Angeles Times* recently wrote up the IRC describing it as a group of "human rights activists."

The IRC has been funded by the Kaplan Fund, a CIA conduit, according to a *New York Times* discovery. IRC's founder and chairman, Leo Cherne, also founded the American Friends of Vietnam, which mounted the massive lobbying drive in the 1950's which spurred on U.S. intervention in Southeast Asia. Cherne also joined the Citizens Committee for a Free Cuba, which in 1963 called for a U.S. policy to "liberate Cuba by all means necessary," including hit and run military raids, and he is the author of the book, "How to Adapt Your Business to War."

The International Rescue Committee parades as a humanitarian group dedicated to the aid of political refugees, yet it opens its arms only to those refugees likely to prove useful in its Cold War against communism.

Cherne has enough political weight to get the ear of Congress and the Carter Administration. As he discusses his open door immigration policy for those who fled liberated Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, he is not likely to also plead on behalf of the political refugees from Chile or of Iran, or the economic exiles from Mexico or Haiti.

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*(Thanks to Jeff Cohen for this information.)*

*(See packet 907 for first-hand report from the Philippines.)*

### **Eight Simultaneous Actions in U.S. and Guam Answer Fraudulent Philippine Elections**

NEW YORK (LNS)—A young Filipino woman travelled 150 miles into New York City April 13 in order to get papers for a trip home to the Philippines. She arrived at the Consulate offices in midtown Manhattan—only to find the doors locked to the public as demonstrators outside banged noisemakers and denounced the Marcos dictatorship, and four more occupied the lavish lobby inside.

She was clearly anxious to get her papers after the trip, but when pressed as to her feeling about the demonstration said simply: "It's a good thing." The woman recalled her own experiences in the Philippines as a member of the now-outlawed KM, a progressive student-based organization working for democracy in a country ruled by martial law since September, 1972.

Other Filipino-Americans and Philippine nationals living in the U.S. described similar experiences that underscore the reasons for the loud protest actions taking place simultaneously in seven other U.S. cities and Guam.

The demonstrations were organized in two days' time as a response to the fraudulent legislative elections conducted by President Ferdinand Marcos.

Marcos called the April 7 election in an attempt to legitimize a repressive regime that is coming under increasing international criticism. But he was able to announce all 21 Marcos candidates as "winners" only by arresting leaders of the opposition party and driving others of the leaders into hiding; suppressing massive protest demonstrations of up to 30,000 in the capital city of Manila; and committing massive voting fraud.

In each of the eight coordinated solidarity actions, delegations of four to six people entered Philippine consulates (in Washington D.C. it was the Philippine embassy) with a list of demands, insisting that top officials at the respective offices should hear their message and transmit it to Marcos.

The statement called for the release of all the approximately 1,000 persons arrested in the Philippines the day of the election and the day following; assurance of safety and amnesty for all leaders of the Marcos opposition in the Philippines forced into hiding; lifting of martial law; and an end to U.S. aid to the Marcos regime.

The actions took place in Washington D.C., New York, Chicago, Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Honolulu and Guam, with groups of picketers ranging in size from 70 to several hundred. Four occupiers were arrested in Seattle, five in Chicago, five in L.A. and seven in San Francisco.

The New York delegation left the consulate voluntarily after FBI or supposed FBI officials threatened to arrest them on a federal felony charge that they said carries a 10-year sentence. In D.C. Marcos representatives at the Philippine embassy spotted an NBC camera crew and locked their doors before the occupiers could enter. Twenty of the picketers there defied a ban that prohibits demonstrations less than 500 feet from a foreign embassy. They were then driven 500 feet away—in front of the Chilean embassy, where they took up chants of "Down with Pinochet!"

In Seattle, the picket line swelled to 250 when anti-nuclear activists joined the anti-Marcos demonstrators to express their opposition to a new nuclear reactor project in that country.

In Los Angeles, five occupiers were confronted by the Asian Task Force of the Los Angeles Police Department. In Honolulu the Consul actually met with the group, snatching the paper from their hands to tell them that human rights "know no nationality."

And in Guam, only three hours from the Philippine Presidential Palace by jet, Filipino and native Guam church and community leaders made up the delegation and were supported outside by several hundred demonstrators—one of the biggest demonstrations the island has seen.

The simultaneous actions were organized by the Anti-Martial Law Coalition, a coalition of Filipino groups which has vowed to match each escalation of repressive tactics by the Marcos government in the Philippines with an escalation of its own organized resistance.

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### **Of Senators and Crackpots**

NEW YORK (LNS)—Debate on the Panama Canal treaties has produced plenty of florid rhetoric and acrimonious exchanges on the floor of the Senate, including criticisms of the way Panamanian leader Omar Torrijos treats political opponents. So treaty opponent Senator James Allen's executive secretary may have been intending an object lesson in how to deal with political opposition when he responded to a letter from a Massachusetts woman who urged Allen to change his stand.

"I'm writing to advise you that your letter has been received and put in Senator Allen's crackpot file," the Alabama senator's aide wrote. "There are quite a few letters from Massachusetts in this file. Evidently your state is a melting pot for neurotics, cranks and other individuals with subnormal mentalities."

Melting pots have long been anathema to Allen, whose segregationist views have made him a prominent opponent of civil rights legislation.

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## **LNS May Day Report from Malaysia: Emerging Unity Among Worker Nationalities Faces Off Government, Business Racism**

**By Ted Chandler  
Liberation News Service**

*(Editor's note: Workers in Malaysia are now finalizing plans for May Day celebrations, as are working people in countries throughout the world. Their activities are instructive for working people in the U.S., even though Malaysia is half a world away and its workers have lived through the specific conditions of British imperialism and now modern-day neo-colonialism. For the employers' and government officials' exploitation of racial divisions is strikingly familiar to those used here at home. And the emerging working class unity among Malay, Chinese and Indians in Malaysia is a beacon for all workers in the U.S.—black, white, Latin, Asian, Native American.)*

PINANG, West Malaysia (LNS)—Ever since nineteenth century British imperialism began bringing Chinese and Tamil workers into the Malay Peninsula, racial divisions have been exploited to prevent Malaysia's three main ethnic strains—Malay, Chinese and Indian—from working together. Twenty-five years ago the British skillfully manipulated Malay feelings to check the largely-Chinese Communist Party of Malaya (CPM) in its attempt to free the country through armed struggle. Even after the British granted independence in 1957, communal feelings continued to be stirred up by politicians and employers, erupting in bloody anti-Chinese riots in 1969 that left hundreds dead in the capital city, Kuala Lumpur.

Now there are signs that the historical divisions are no longer so powerful, in part because of the kind of economic changes now in process. In the first place, foreign investors—U.S., Japanese, and German—have been pulling the Malay peasant out of the *kompang* (village) and into the factory for the first time. Parallel to this phenomenon, the Malay-dominated government is trying to challenge the traditional economic pre-dominance of Chinese businessmen by using the power of the state to transfer ownership to a Malay middle class, which is supposed to be given control of 30 percent of the economy by 1990. The movement of Malays into positions both of owners and workers is shifting the focus of conflict in Malaysian society from race towards class.

### **Textile Workers' Strike**

But Malaysia's workers are not sitting idly awaiting historically inevitable changes. Instead they are actively confronting attempts to divide them and are building unity among themselves.

A turning point for their effort occurred two years ago across from

Pinang Island in Seberang Perai (still sometimes known by its colonial name, "Province Wellesley.")

There, early in 1976, workers at the Allied Malaysian Textiles (AMT) plant had a number of serious grievances, including poor working conditions under a singularly oppressive plant manager. Wages were also woefully inadequate (even today the average is about U.S.\$ .80 a day while a modest dinner will run U.S.\$ .40.)

But contract negotiations were going nowhere. Normally, factory owners try to stall around the time of Chinese New Year, since the pressure of the long holiday—still celebrated here with expensive festivities that have disappeared in China itself—is often enough to compel the workers to give in.

Furthermore, strikes are not undertaken lightly, for the country still runs under three successive emergency decrees equivalent to martial law. Police "swoops" regularly round up hundreds of people for several months' detention. The system of political repression here has not only outlawed the CPM and affiliated organizations, but has also jailed many central committee leaders of the Partai Sosialis Rakyat Malay (Malay People's Socialist Party) and destroyed the Labour Party. Thousands of student, squatter and other protestors have been roped in as well.

Strikers are legally required to file notice of their intentions two weeks in advance with the Department of Labour—allowing the government ample time to notify the employers—the establishment Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA)—and so give them ample time, in turn, to take counter-measures.

This time, however, AMT workers simply "downed tools" without the formalities. There was some hesitation among men workers apprehensive about the approaching New Year's holiday, but women workers and wives led the walkout, persuading the men to come along.

The Malaysian Trades Union Congress (MTUC)—established under colonialism by the British TUC and reflecting its outlook—immediately sent a representative to inform the AMT workers that their strike was illegal. The workers were incredulous and consulted outside observers present: "This chap here says we can't strike—what's all that about?" The observers explained that by law they were supposed first to go through "Labour Court"—a wearing-down process calculated to demoralize workers.

But the workers stuck with the decision to strike and, following customary practice in this country, did not vacate the ATM plant but established a tent city around it—a barrier management had to pass through at least twice a day. (One of the more imaginative touches in the barrier, recounts a strike observer, was the erection of a traditional altar, incense sticks, coffin, and picture of the owner—as though he had just died.)

### **Militant Worker Unity**

Undoubtedly the most significant aspect of the strike was the degree of militant labor unity displayed. Virtually all 600 ATM workers walked off the job. Their tent city barricade was maintained round-the-clock by people living on the premises. Strike meetings were consistently well attended, drawing 3-400 workers every time.

All this occurred, it must be remembered, under continual surveillance by the Special Branch police, trained by the same British secret service that helped give the CIA its start in life.

Community support helped: the strike excited the attention of other workers, who dropped by in large numbers after finishing their shifts at companies in the area to see how things were getting on.

The workers resolved the problem of Chinese New Year when the Malay workers volunteered to staff the tent city so that the Chinese could go visit their families. Later the strikers decided things were going well enough so that the hardest-hit workers could be permitted to seek temporary jobs in other factories.

The strikers also elected good leadership. One of the most prominent spokespersons was a young woman known simply as Ang. Her sense of the struggle was extremely accurate and her suggestions were listened to by both Malay and Chinese workers, although she could speak only Chinese. At one point she charged alone into a cozy pre-strike discussion between some workers and company officials, denouncing it as an illegally-constituted meeting with management. The workers acknowledged that she was right and broke off the talks. (Ang has since been detained on a charge of visiting CPM guerilla areas.)

Another example of the workers' unity came when Labour Secretary Lim Song Chun called the strikers to Kuala Lumpur to meet with him. Immediately sensing the hand of the MCA in this, the workers promptly elected a delegation composed of one Chinese, one Malay, and one Indian, with another Chinese to serve as interpreter. The Chinese spoke to Lim in Chinese, the Malay in Bahasa Malaysia, and the Indian in Tamil, making clear their intent to continue the strike, and totally frustrating his attempt at traditional "divide-and-rule" racial politics.

### **Victory and New Struggles**

They won their strike. After sixty days in which the machines stood silent, the owner sold out to a new management that settled on the basis of almost everything the workers had demanded. They were even able to win dismissal of the plant manager, removed after a short face-saving period.

The unity developed by the workers continued. In planning for May Day that year, an important question to be resolved was the language of the ceremony. But the Chinese suggested Bahasa Malaysia, while the Malays

supported Chinese, the majority tongue among the workers. Eventually it was decided wherever possible to use Malay.

The workers showed the same spirit in the formulation of May Day demonstrations. One Chinese worker discussed the demand for more jobs on the following terms: "You see, what you Malay chaps keep forgetting is this is a Chinese company—they're never going to hire more Malay workers if they can help it." Accordingly the demand for more jobs was written making specific allowance for the hiring of more Malay workers—and for more women workers as well.

The Seberang strike represented a signal victory for the principles of worker solidarity in a country where, under colonialism and neo-colonialism alike, exploitation of ethnic divisions has been the order of the day. That unity seems to be developing elsewhere as well: a labor organizer in Kuala Lumpur told this writer: "No problem—when it comes to this kind of issue workers pull together". Malay and Chinese students have also stood together to support hunger marchers in Kedah state and evicted squatters in Johor—and taken heavy sentences for doing it.

Still, it would be an error to over-

#### Hidden Hands

Once again  
history repeats itself,  
by savage deeds  
in a civilized age.

Once again  
hidden hands appear,  
seeking the blood  
of the poor and the wretched.

Once again  
colour, race, religion and language  
become sharp blades to use in the  
carnage.

It has happened  
in every corner of the earth  
where the few eat bread,  
and the rest go naked, squeezed  
into shacks.

It has happened—  
then Hidden Hands re-appear,  
spilling the blood of the poor  
to cling onto power.

—Said Zahari

*(Said Zahari is a Malay journalist, arrested in February, 1963 in Singapore as he prepared to attend an Afro-Asian Journalists' Conference. He has had no indictment and no trial—for 15 years. His sole offense, and that of the others arrested with him in the notorious operation Cold Store, was to have been part of the people's movement and to have opposed the incorporation of Sabah and Sarawak into "Malaysia". He wrote this poem after the anti-Chinese race riots in Kuala Lumpur in 1969.)*

emphasize what has been achieved as against what remains to be done in the peninsula. The politics of race have so long been exploited that they do not easily die. Moreover, slick new "labor management" tactics imported from the U.S., which no longer rely on overt racism, are now being introduced into the country. Already, even among the workers in Seberang, the sophisticated tactics of ATM's new management have succeeded in splitting off a small group that now cooperates with the company, fracturing the unity that developed during the 1976 strike.

Nevertheless, the Seberang workers have shown in actual practice the possibilities of united action in this ethnically-divided country. In doing so, they have laid a good foundation for the struggles that lie ahead.

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*(Ted Chandler is an LNS correspondent in Asia.)*

*(See packets 888, 892, 901 for background.)*

#### Shah Hires U.S. P.R. Firm to Shore Up Image Marred by Mass Uprisings

##### Liberation News Service

NEW YORK (LNS)—The Shah of Iran has just hired a U.S.-based public relations company to shore up his image which is currently being threatened by the broadest and deepest series of popular uprisings in the past fifteen years. The Shah hired Doremus and company (see box) in March as his effort to portray himself as a "progressive monarch" building a "great civilization" came to a grinding halt.

According to documents filed with the Justice Department, it intends to "present facts and information about Iran and attempt to make that country better understood in the United States."

Doremus handles public relations for a host of reactionary pro-western countries including Jordan, Spain, Saudi Arabia and the Philippines. In the Philippines and Tunisia as in Iran, Doremus took on accounts shortly after government repression campaigns were publicized.

As part of its efforts to create a positive image of these repressive governments, Doremus devotes its work to promoting foreign investment—foreign investment which has already been one of the main targets of the recent demonstrations in Iran.

And if their contract with Iran is anything like its program for the Philippines it will include: planting articles favorable to the regime in the U.S. media, disseminating positive information to both the legislative and executive branches of government, analyzing Iran's political environment for attracting foreign investment, as well as preparing speeches should Iranian officials come to the U.S.

The hiring of Doremus signifies that Iran is seriously concerned about its

image in the world—but many feel it is already too late. Moreover, by hiring Doremus, the Shah may worsen rather than improve his image, for the public relation firm's close ties to the CIA and the State Department will only serve to further isolate him internationally.

#### Uprisings Throughout Iran

The recent militant popular uprisings followed by fierce government repression have left the Shah in a position where even conservative analysts report that the odds are not in his favor. Since the Shah's U.S. visit in November, anti-government demonstrations have broken out in at least 55 cities, towns and villages in Iran, protesting economic hardship and harsh political repression.

The precise death toll of the government's crackdown may never be known, but many estimate that hundreds have been killed and thousands arrested. As protests have mounted

#### Personnel of the Doremus Public Relations Firm

Most of the leading executives at Doremus have State Department, Defense Department, corporate and intelligence backgrounds. The following is a brief list of their top personnel:

**William R. Codus** is a vice-president and head of counseling services for the Philippines. Codus was formerly with the State Department, serving as the U.S. Assistant Chief of Protocol.

**John W. O'Connell** provides "professional consultative services" for Doremus. O'Connell was the former CIA Chief of Station in Amman, Jordan.

**Retired Col. John E. Horton** is a vice-president and the manager of the Doremus office in Washington, D.C. Horton was formerly Chief of Motion Pictures for the Defense Department. He was also at one time a White House aid to President Truman.

**Charles R. Pucie** is a vice-president of Doremus. Before assuming this post Pucie was a corporate financial analyst for the Chase Manhattan Bank. According to Justice Department documents, Pucie has "supervised corporate public relations programs for U.S. and foreign companies in the financial services, public utilities, electronics, aerospace and other industries."

**Stephen John McCarthy** is a financial and investment consultant for Doremus. In the 1960's, McCarthy was an investment banker. In 1971, he joined the State Department. Informal sources have identified McCarthy as a CIA agent.

**Retired Col. John C. Henry** is a consultant for Doremus. Henry was formerly an editor for the *Washington Star*.

**George L. Fisher** is a vice-president and regional manager of Doremus. During the late 1950's, Fisher was employed by the CIA. Since then he has been a public relations director for several U.S. corporations.

across the country, prisoners in Iran's largest prison in Qasr began an unlimited hunger strike March 13 to protest the horrid prison conditions there.

Since the beginning of the year, general public hostility towards the regime has grown in leaps and bounds. The demonstrations which took place in Qum on January 7 and 9 have been repeated since then every 40 days. The significance of the 40 day period is not new in Iran. It is the traditional mourning period after which a second funeral is held. Today this custom has been transformed into a form of political struggle among the Iranian people.

Government reaction to these demonstrations has been brutal: in Qum police killed at least 70 people. Forty days later the Shah called in his army to crush a demonstration in Tabriz, leaving some 100 dead.

The latest government onslaught occurred March 30 during a day of mourning called by religious leaders of the Shi'ite Moslems to honor the people killed by army troops in Tabriz. Thousands of people rose up in protest in more than 40 cities against the Shah's repressive rule. In all of these demonstrations, protestors have attacked banks, money exchange centers, luxury shops, pornographic cinemas and local offices of Iran's only political party, the National Political Resurrection Movement, created by the Shah in 1975.

In Tabriz, the branches of one bank (Siderat) were singled out as a main target. According to writer Jean-Claude Guillebaud in the French daily *Le Monde*, a few weeks before the Tabriz demonstration "this bank, which has a working-class clientele, became the object of a large-scale boycott, when it became known that its financial control had passed into the hands of a businessman with close ties to some prominent government figures."

The businessman was known for providing Iran's political police (SAVAK) "with information concerning private accounts, especially those earmarked for helping political prisoners." Pressure became so strong that this businessman eventually withdrew his shares in the bank.

#### Uprising Organizers

The mass demonstrations are overtly political, despite Iranian government reports dismissing them as unruly "riots" led by "violent" men. Banks have indeed been smashed, for example, but no looting has been reported. In one instance files and bank notes were burned, indicating the political motivation for destroying the bank.

In addition, the demonstrations are well organized and disciplined, according to some foreign reporters. Clearly Iran's Marxist organizations, the Organization of Iranian People's Fedayee Guerrillas (OIPFG) and the Organization of the Mojahadeen of the People of Iran (OMPI), have been ac-

tively involved in organizing the recent demonstrations. Their leaflets have been distributed in several cities and OIPFG claimed responsibility for many attacks on government and capitalist institutions in towns and cities across the country. These actions fly in the face of the Shah's claims to have crushed both organizations two years ago.

In each demonstration, government officials have attributed the protests to "foreign-inspired elements"—an epithet much in vogue with the Shah. But this assertion can not hide the growing strength of the social forces opposing the Shah's rule. For what is most threatening to the Shah, according to Guillebaud, is the apparent unity of students, religious dissenters and Marxists against "the corruption which extends to the Shah's entourage, the arrogance of Tehran's new Americanized technocrats, and the runaway capitalism which has already committed the country to a pitiless scramble for profits."

The Shi'ite leaders have objected in particular to the regime's "autocratic rule" and its "dependency on foreign capital"—objections commonly raised by university students and members of Iran's underground Marxist guerrilla movements. The Shah's attempt to discredit the Shi'ite religious leaders as obscurantists and reactionaries, terms used to give the Shah a progressive image internationally, have not succeeded.

#### Government Instability

With each passing day, signs of instability are becoming more evident. The Shah, for instance, arrested several SAVAK agents in March for being "soft" on analyzing wire-tapped conversations they had collected. He has also demoted SAVAK agents for relaxing their repression against the opposition. And in an act of desperation, he has set up parallel intelligence services to spy on each other. As one opponent put it, "Now the system is beginning to turn against him."

In a related action, the Shah unearthed a "Soviet Spy Ring" caper, reflecting his effort to discredit opposition as "foreign-directed."

But these defensive tactics will hardly stave off the mounting opposition to the current regime. Even the conservative London-based *Economist* has doubts: "The rough waters of the next five years or so are increasingly recognized in Iran and abroad. The Shah will need all his strength, and his 37 years of experience on the throne, to reach the other side unscathed. The odds are not good."

As an opponent of the regime put it: "The demonstrations are going to go on and will probably spread in the coming months. This time things may become as serious as they were in (uprisings in) 1963, but they will be better organized."

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## Witch Hunt in Europe: The Bellavita Affair

by Schofield Coryell  
Liberation News Service

PARIS (LNS)—Antonio Bellavita, an Italian journalist living in France since 1975, is threatened with extradition to Italy where he faces a possible 15 years of prison for his role as editor of the review *Contro-Informazione* [Counter-Information].

The Italian authorities have accused Bellavita of being in collusion—ideologically and journalistically—with the direct action group, the Red Brigades. The accusation dates from 1974.

The magazine in question, *Contro-Informazione*, specializes in information and analyses concerning the social struggle convulsing Italy today. It has particularly disturbed the Italian right-wing and the government with its revelations concerning the activities of the fascist group M.S.I., and its exposé of the Fiat company police. Bellavita several years ago carried out an investigation of the rightist elements plotting a coup d'état. *Contro-Informazione* has also published various bulletins of the Italian Red Brigades and of similar direct action West German groups, though expressing a critical attitude toward their tactics.

Against a background of political and social turmoil and of the regime's powerlessness in the face of the Moro kidnapping, the Italian authorities have demanded Bellavita's extradition in order to put him on trial in Italy and make him a scapegoat for the country's unsolved problems.

Immediately following the Italian demand for extradition, the French police arrested the journalist on April 1 and locked him up. Since he arrived here in 1975, Bellavita had been working at the leftist daily *Libération* as an offset printer, confining his journalistic activities to *Contro-Informazione*, which is published in Milan.

*Libération* immediately launched a nationwide campaign to awaken public opinion on the case and organize support for Bellavita. A petition—that has been signed by hundreds of journalists and thousands of others with widely varying occupations and political views—denounced the threatened extradition of Bellavita as an infringement on the right of political asylum and on the principle of freedom of the press.

At the first hearing April 11 to consider the question of whether Bellavita should be held in prison awaiting the extradition decision, the journalist's lawyers stressed the purely political character of the charges against him in Italy—mainly "participation in a subversive plot." This argument will also be crucial in the basic case against his extradition.

As the defense lawyer, Henri Leclerc, expressed it during the hearing: "It is a serious situation when a

man is in prison for his journalistic activity alone...The evidence against my client consists not of bombs or other weapons but of newspaper articles, tracts, books, etc. We are faced with a press offense for which there should be neither arrest nor extradition."

In an initial victory, the Chamber of Accusation of the Court of Appeals ruled that Bellavita should be released pending the final hearing on the extradition demand, which will take place on May 10.

In an editorial, *Liberation* praised the decision to let Bellavita out of jail after 10 days of imprisonment, calling it a victory of "the individual in the face of the Leviathan state," and a "victory for freedom of the press." The editorial pointed out that Italy's economic and political leverage against the French government is less powerful than that of West Germany, whose overwhelming pressure helped bring about the extradition of lawyer Klaus Croissant from France to Germany.

But the case of Bellavita still hangs in suspense. And the question of extradition remains to be decided, even though the French constitution specifically states that there can be no extradition when the charges are political.

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## Italian Activists Face Police and Union Crackdown

by M.R.

*(Editor's note: While headline writers and broadcast announcers speculate about the fate of former Italian prime minister Aldo Moro, Italy's revolutionary opposition movement is fighting to fend off efforts by the police, the unions and the government parties to use Moro's kidnapping as an excuse for silencing dissent. The following dispatch, filed by LNS' Rome correspondent on April 9, details some of the repressive actions launched since the kidnapping...and some of the response from the opposition movement.)*

ROME (LNS)—So far the Italian police have made no progress in their hunt for Aldo Moro. But that doesn't mean they haven't been busy since the leader of the ruling Christian Democratic party was kidnapped by guerrillas of the Red Brigades (BR) on March 16.

On Monday, April 3, police made dawn raids on the homes of over 200 young people, all of them revolutionary (but not BR) sympathizers, in the hope of finding, "BR fellow-travellers or active supporters." Many were taken off to the police station for questioning under new emergency laws decreed by the government. These laws give the police wider powers to search houses and hold and interrogate suspects without either a warrant or the presence of a lawyer. Where the individuals the police wan-

ted were not at home, family members were taken instead. Police entered schools and picked up "subversive" high school students out of the classrooms to interrogate them and see if they were holding Moro. All told, 41 arrests were made during that day, often on the pretext of finding "arms" (including anything from old unuseable guns to letter openers) in the homes.

The revolutionary opposition movement, highly alarmed, held a mass assembly of 2000 people that afternoon. Mothers of persecuted revolutionary activists attended, and one of them spoke to the assembly. Vans of riot police drew up outside the hall, and all those leaving the assembly were stopped, searched and identified.

Two days later the movement split, with one side calling for a street demonstration in protest, regardless of police bans, and the other for a people's assembly in a theater.

On Friday, April 7, a few hundred militants held scattered street demonstrations and a couple of Christian Democratic offices were set on fire. The date also marked the second anniversary of the death of Mario Salvi, a young militant shot in the back by a Ministry of Justice guard during a demonstration.

The other wing of the movement held its indoor assembly on April 9, with the participation of "democratic personalities" (such as left-wing magistrates).

The day after the police swoop, the Italian Communist Party (PCI) said that this was "not an application, but a violation of the recent emergency laws" (which the PCI had approved). One factor contributing to this apparent about-face by the PCI was that a few party members (ex-members of revolutionary groups) had been caught in the police net.

The upshot of the dragnet operation was that 29 of those arrested were released, pending trial on charges of "subversive association," and the other 12 were tried on April 8 on charges of keeping weapons. Some were absolved and others given suspended sentences.

### PCI Cracks Down

#### on Party and Union Dissidents

While the PCI voiced concern about police conduct under the emergency decrees, the party continued its own campaign against "terrorist sympathizers." Six dockworkers in Genoa who were PCI members were expelled from the Party because they worked with revolutionary-left militants to organize a 2,000-strong Dockworkers Collective that put out a leaflet stating "We stand neither with the State nor with the BR." The dockers held a press conference, accusing the PCI of "Stalinism" among other things.

On Friday, April 7, PCI member and top Union boss Luciano Lama said that all those who adhered to the line taken by the dockworkers should be expelled from the Union, for the unions had to rally round the State.

Other Union leaders held that this was undemocratic. And over the weekend furious arguments raged in the Union national leadership. There was even talk of a split.

The Genoese dockers' slogan sums up the position of Italy's revolutionary left, which generally feels expropriated by the BR and considers their actions to be uncommunist, premature, adventurist and a dangerous excuse for the State to become more openly strong feeling that this State is not worth defending, not just because some abstract dogma says so but because it is actually and perceptibly corrupt and oppressive. This feeling is shared by many ordinary people as well as by some intellectuals, like Sicilian novelist Leonardo Sciascia.

Meanwhile, the collapse of the credibility of the State is now being underlined by revolutionary comic magazines which run satirical pieces making fun of both the establishment and the BR. They have depicted Moro as kidnapped by flying saucers, or written, "And if it ended like Patricia Hearst?" One ran a centerfold of the world-famous Polaroid snapshot sent out by the BR, showing a rumpled Moro sitting under the banner of the Red Brigades. Satirizing a well-known ad for men's suits, the magazine had Moro saying, "Sorry, I usually wear a Marzotto suit."

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## Saharan Resources the Target? Morocco Seeks U.S. Help in Scheme to Extract Uranium from Phosphates

NEW YORK (LNS)—The Carter administration has apparently backed away from its plan to provide arms to Morocco for use against guerrillas fighting for the independence of the former Spanish Sahara. But the Moroccan government has now found some new leverage to help swing U.S. corporations and economic strategists around behind its campaign to seize the disputed territory.

*Business Week* reported recently that Moroccan Energy Minister Moussa Saadi flew into Washington in mid-April and met with his U.S. counterpart James Schlesinger to discuss a nuclear cooperation agreement. Morocco hopes to begin exporting uranium ore extracted from phosphates now that extraction technology has been developed. The North African kingdom claims to hold the world's richest reserves of phosphates. But although Morocco is a major phosphate exporter in its own right, that boast only holds up if you count in the vast open lodes which cover 150 square miles of the territory of Sahara.

Saadi reported that Schlesinger showed "a lively interest" in Morocco's plans. And the Westinghouse Corporation also acquired a large stake in the Moroccan uranium scheme when Saadi placed an order for a \$250 million plant to extract the radioactive ore from phosphates.

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## **Student Anti-Apartheid Divestment Actions Grow in Militance and Numbers**

NEW YORK (LNS)—“There hasn’t been anything like this on campus here since the end of the Indochina war,” exulted a Princeton activist when more than 800 students rallied to demand that the Ivy League school sell nearly \$200 million worth of stocks in corporations which do business in South Africa. Less than two weeks later, on April 14, the Princeton campus saw something else that hadn’t taken place there in years—a building occupation. More than 200 students took over the administration building for two days in an effort to convince the trustees who were meeting on campus that they had better take the demand for divestment seriously.

Princeton isn’t the only university which is witnessing an upsurge of protest on the issue of investments in South Africa. Nor is it the only school where the protests have evoked memories of militant actions during the height of the anti-war movement.

At Cornell, 200 protesters blockaded the university president and members of the board of trustees inside a building for more than an hour April 12. The protest focused on the university’s decision not to sell its stocks in corporations doing business in South Africa and to abstain on proxy resolutions calling on some of those corporations to withdraw from the apartheid state. The students were also responding to statements by the chairman of the board of trustees proposing that the school’s Africana Studies and Research Center be dismantled, which had already touched off a round of racist attacks. A seven-foot cross was burnt in front of a black student center and residence hall, recalling a similar incident which led to an armed building occupation in 1969.

Confrontations on other campuses haven’t been as dramatic. But organizers at a number of schools are building toward coordinated actions across the country on May 1.

In California, students have targeted the Bank of America (which has advanced \$118 million in loans to South Africa) as well as universities such as Stanford, Occidental and the University of California, which hold stocks in this and other corporations doing business in South Africa. A daily barrage of protests has been scheduled, aimed at Bank of America branches, corporate recruiters, and trustees meetings.

Following a conference at Yale University, activists at 12 major colleges in the Northeast have put together a Coalition for the Liberation of Southern Africa and a coordinated series of demonstrations.

And organizers from several campuses echoed the enthusiasm of Kenny Thomas of Princeton, who commented, “We’re bringing more people into it all the time. Our petition drive got over 2,100 signatures. And our dai-

ly picket has doubled in size, with an average of about 150 people every day. We understand that the trustees will be meeting again on May 12 and we’re definitely building up to another big demonstration then.” —30—

## **Park Chung Hee Turnabout After Threat From Own People**

by Bob Cambria

NEW YORK (LNS)—In a change of tactics, the South Korean government reversed its decision to press the Carter Administration for information about the U.S.’s reported bugging of President Park Chung Hee’s office. At first South Korea characterized the incident as a “serious” and unpardonable infringement on the sovereignty of the Republic of Korea.” That followed an April 4 television interview in which former U.S. Ambassador to Korea William Porter confirmed previous reports that the U.S. had placed listening devices in the South Korean presidential mansion, the Blue House.

Then why has South Korea decided to accept Washington’s denial that it spied on an American ally?

It appears logical that Park would use Ambassador Porter’s admissions as the excuse to limit cooperation with Congressional committees investigating the “Korea” bribery scandal. For, Congress wanted testimony not only from Tongsun Park, but also from Dong Jo Kim, a former Korean ambassador to Washington. Indeed, Park had reason to fear that other officials in his regime might be called to testify.

Following this logic, Park at first mobilized his supporters from the army and labor unions to demonstrate against U.S. pressure outside the U.S. embassy in Seoul late in the first week of April. But Park apparently did not count on students taking the opportunity to organize a protest of their own several days later.

Once the students did take to the streets, Park promptly changed his tune. Recent Korean history testifies to the power of springtime protests by students...and to Park’s determination not to become a victim of a new chapter in this history.

It was on April 19, 1960 that students demanding democracy rose. The people rose to support them. Together they overthrew Syngman Rhee’s dictatorship. Every April since his coup d’etat in 1961, Park fears that the 1960 Student Revolution may be repeated. Each April as long as dictatorship rules in South Korea, student leaders will be arrested.

And yet this April, Park dared to raise the issue of American involvement in South Korea. His tactic backfired. By permitting expression of hostility to foreign intervention, Park allowed his opponents to speak their equally deep-seated conviction that foreigners have bolstered dictatorship and thwarted democracy in South

Korea. South Koreans of all walks of life refuse to accept U.S. explanations that denial of human rights and support for a brutal dictatorship are necessary for the security of the continental U.S. President Carter may speak fine words about human rights, but so long as the U.S. supports Park’s dictatorship, South Koreans see only the acts that betray the words.

So Park turned tail. The tactical advantage of resistance to pressure from the U.S. Congress carries the threatening potential of organized action by the South Korean people. And his own people are Park’s enemy. American money and troops bolster his regime. American assistance trains his army and perfects his prison system. Park cannot afford to “bite the hand” that so generously feeds him with U.S. tax money.

Park’s friends in the U.S., too, are concerned about his future. The two powerful Armed Services Committees, which reflect the ideas of top Pentagon officials, believe that ground troop withdrawal can truly weaken Park’s rule; that a democratic government would negotiate with North Korea in order to end almost four decades of Korea’s division. This would be contrary to U.S. strategy, which seeks to maintain tension in Northeast Asia through a divided Korea and a strong U.S. military presence there. —30—

## **South Korean Workers Protest**

TOKYO, Japan (New Asia News/LNS)—Thirty South Korean women textile workers disrupted a government-sponsored workers’ meeting in Seoul March 10, national Labor Day, demanding higher wages and improved working conditions. About 600 workers and some government officials, including Prime Minister Che, attended the meeting, presided over by the Federation of Korean Trade Unions (FKTU), which claims 960,000 of South Korea’s six million workers as its members.

The women marched into the assembly hall, interrupting the chairperson of the FKTU in the middle of a speech, to present their demands. Leaders of the government-controlled unions shouted at them to “Get out!” and the women were immediately arrested and taken away. But even inside the police vans, they remained undeterred, singing protest songs while clinging to the wire mesh as they were driven off.

South Korean labor protests are on the increase. Early this year workers at Aria Music Instrument Company raided the president’s office, detained him and held the place overnight, demanding a fifty percent wage increase. In Kangwonto, coal miners staged a sit-down strike.

These actions are especially daring under a regime where strikes are illegal as are non-government unions.

Targets of the workers’ protests have been the companies, as well as the elite labor organizations working hand-in-glove with the government. Their

demands are not surprising, since half the workers in South Korea earn less than U.S. \$60 monthly, yet they are unable to benefit from their production. Most goods are exported with the profits going to a small number of South Korean entrepreneurs and the U.S. and Japanese corporations with large investments there.

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### **Job Safety (continued from page 1)**

recent ruling...suggests that even a relatively modest outlay may be considered by the courts to be too high a price to pay for reducing the chance of accidents."

The decision in early April was just the latest in a series of court actions which have chipped away at OSHA's authority to protect workers. Another recent ruling overturned regulations which had barred employers from firing workers who refused to work under conditions they felt to be extremely dangerous.

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### **Strong Showing in Renewed Push for NYC Gay Rights Bill**

NEW YORK(LNS)—In 1971 a gay rights bill was introduced in the City Council of New York City, sometimes called one of the most "liberal" and gay cities in the world. From that year on, well over 40 cities, counties and states in the U.S. have adopted similar protection, using the initial New York bill as a model in many cases. Yet seven years later, 800,000 to one million lesbians and gay men living in the city's five boroughs have yet to see the proposed bill's basic legal guarantees against discrimination in housing, public accommodations and employment.

If the long push for this most basic democratic right and the predictable yearly opposition of powerful local Orthodox Jewish and Catholic hierarchies are discouraging, this year's first "Pass 554" demonstration was a great encouragement to its organizers and participants. Crowd estimates for this initial April 16 demonstration, which was not widely publicized beforehand, ran from 1200 to 1500. Those present donated more than \$800 at the rally.

And endorsements and participants came from a broad spectrum of groups within the gay and women's communities. Among them were gay Hispanics, who marched behind a bright organization banner, as did the Committee for Abortion Rights and Against Sterilization Abuse and the Empire Rainbow Alliance, an organization for deaf gay people. These last demonstrators saw each of the march chants in sign language from a supporter walking alongside the contingent.

Organizers of the march—a year-old coalition called the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights (CLGR)—also viewed the demonstration as a real sign of gay community support for the coalition, despite attempts by more

conservative organizations (such as the National Gay Task Force and a local elite group known as the New York City Study Group) to discredit the coalition and set up a rival one.

According to David Thorstad, one of several CLGR spokespersons, the coalition was red-baited on TV as a "bunch of Trotskyists" because it had office space lent by the Socialist Workers Party; earlier this year conservative gay groups also cooperated with state and local politicians in feeding the *New York Times* and *Post* articles saying that the gay community favored a delayed re-introduction of the gay rights bill. (In an election year, a delay might save politicians embarrassment).

But the CLGR pushed for an early introduction date, and brought 1200-1500 out in support. Newspapers soon were reporting a joint statement by the Archdiocese of New York and that of Brooklyn restating their opposition to the bill, along with that of seven organizations that claim to represent 1,000 rabbis and 1.5 million Orthodox Jews.

With three more votes needed on the city council, prospects for passage of the bill this year do not look great, even though a recent poll showed that most New Yorkers favor employing gay people as police and firefighters and are evenly divided on the question of gay teachers that the Anita Bryant forces exploited in Florida.

But the political situation—as measured by support from individual politicians (including the reluctant but consistent support of New York City Mayor Edward Koch) and more importantly by agitation in the gay community—is the best in memory. As Thorstad put it following the march, "everyone feels very up."

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(See photo.)

### **Nestle Boycott Launched As Company Milks Third World for Infant Formula Profits**

NEW YORK (LNS)—Shouting "Boycott Nestle", over 600 demonstrators marched to Nestle headquarters in White Plains, New York on April 13 as part of National Infant Formula Action Day. The demonstrations were organized to dramatize the disastrous consequences of Nestle baby formula products in the Third World, where poor refrigeration, contaminated drinking water, low literacy and lack of proper information and equipment cause serious health problems for babies fed the artificial milk. The demonstration, organized by Clergy and Laity Concerned and New York metropolitan Infant Formula Action Coalition (INFAC), signaled the beginning of a campaign to boycott Nestle products in the New York area. Nestle executives rejected an offer to meet with a delegation of the demonstrators.

Other protest actions occurred in several cities across the United States.

In Boston, 225 protesters marched

through the city to the harbor, where they held a Nestle party, throwing empty Nestle product boxes into the harbor in a symbolic gesture of protest.

In San Francisco, a demonstration was held in front of the consulate of Switzerland—the home base of the Nestle corporation. Similar demonstrations were staged in Minneapolis, Seattle and Washington D.C.

From Malaysia to Transkei, investigators have found hospital promotion and direct advertising of Nestle baby formula products. Studies made available by Clergy and Laity Concerned, the Interfaith Center of Corporate Responsibility and others confirm that babies bottle-fed in the Third World commonly contract diarrhea, malabsorption and malnutrition and, if untreated, often die.

The Nestle Corporation is not the only company to sell its bottle formulas to parents in the Third World. Borden, American Home Products, Bristol Myers, and Abbott Laboratories are also major promoters of this deadly baby-bottle boom.

This was brought home at the demonstration held in Washington D.C., where a large crowd of people chanting "Nestle is not the only one" picketed Wyeth Laboratory, a subsidiary of American Home Products.

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### **Magnanimous Execs Do Their Bit For Economy: Salary Hikes "Merely" Double Workers' Total Pay**

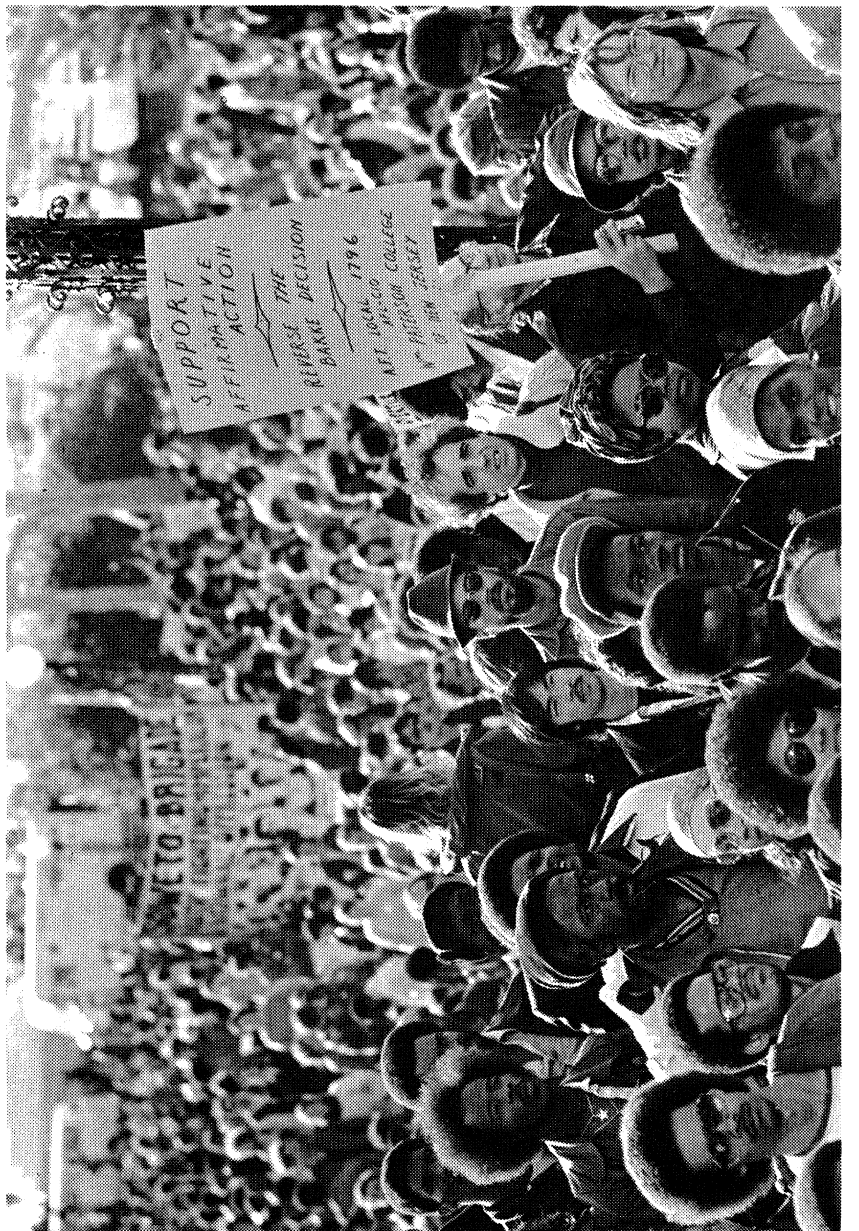
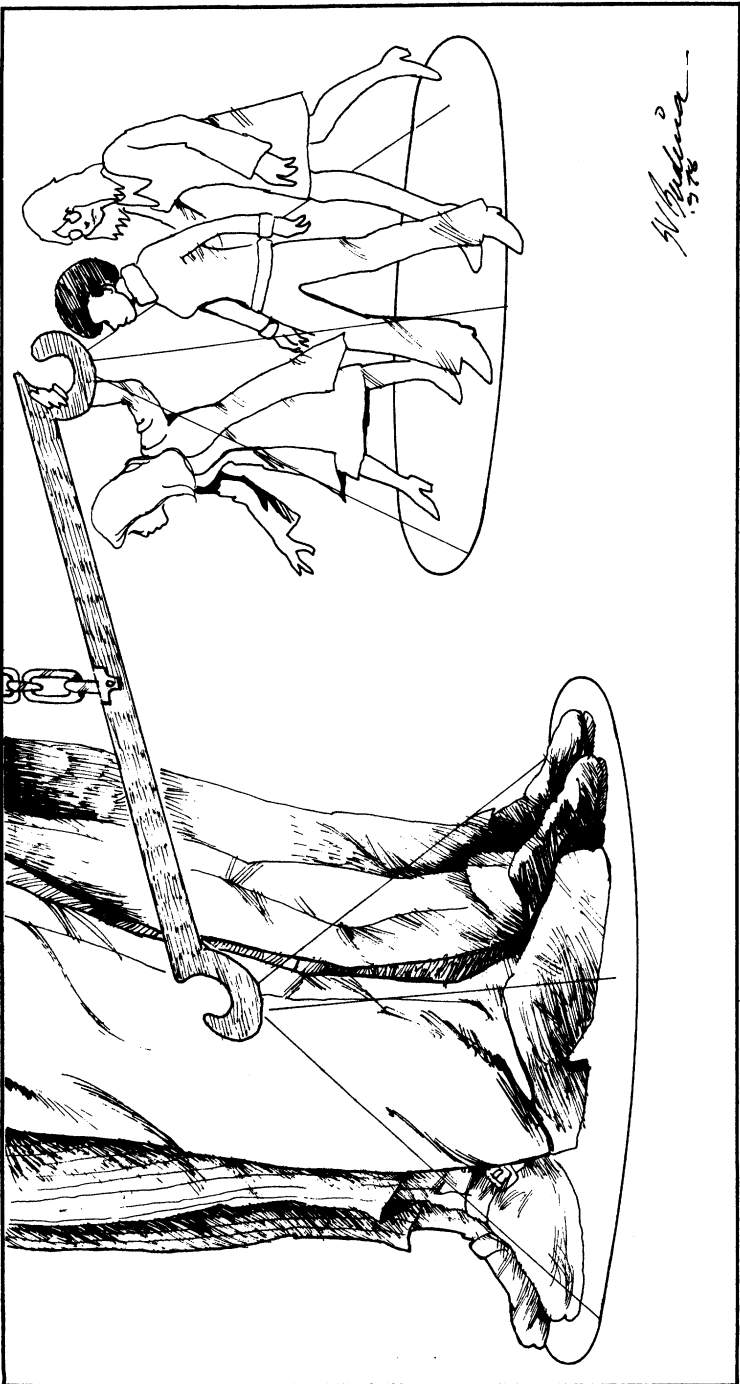
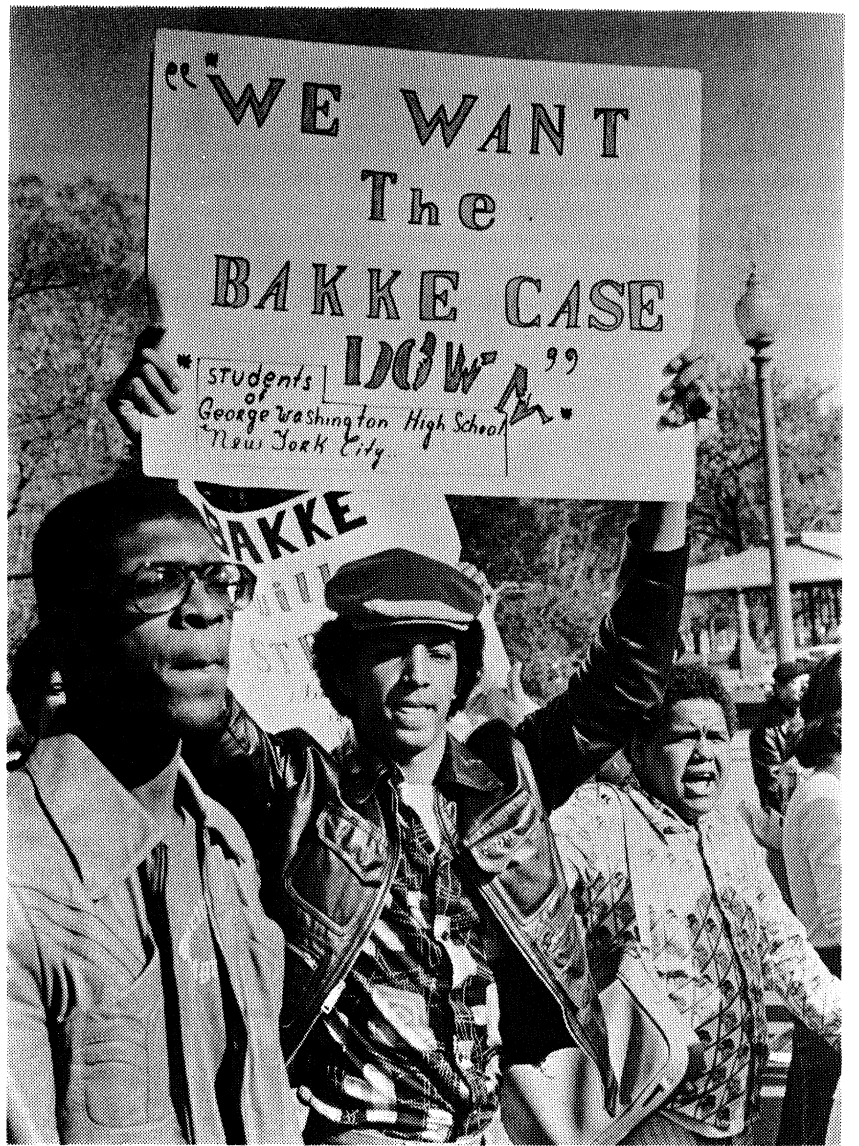
NEW YORK (LNS)—President Carter recently urged sacrifices from both industry and labor to fight inflation, and a look at the wage increases that Ford and General Motor's top execs took for themselves shows where the emphasis lies.

GM's chief executive Thomas Murphy took a mere \$25,000 raise in 1977, bringing his salary up to a modest \$975,000—in spite of record profits for the nation's number one auto producer. As for number two, Henry Ford II took a meager \$22,420 increase, (upping his yearly wage to \$992,000.)

Not all corporate executives have followed GM and Ford's glowing examples. Zoltan Merszei, president of Dow Chemical, grabbed a 51% increase that brought his annual salary to \$493,000. And two top execs from Union Carbide took raises of 27% and 39%, in clear disregard of Carter's policy.

Meanwhile, the full burden of Carter's "inflation fight" is being placed squarely on the shoulders of the American worker, whose average net wage fell from \$178.35 in December, 1977 to \$174.93 in February, 1978, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The "sacrificial" wage increases of GM and Ford executives are more than double a whole year's earnings of the typical auto worker, whose annual take-home pay averages under \$10,000.

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TOP RIGHT: Two students from George Washington High School in New York City were part of the more than 15,000 people who demonstrated against the Bakke decision in Washington D.C. on April 15, 1978.

CREDIT: LNS Graphics

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TOP LEFT: Demonstrators march outside Nestle headquarters in White Plains, New York on April 13 1978, to protest the company's baby formula product's distribution in Third World countries. The demonstration marked the beginning of a boycott of all Nestle products in the New York area.

CREDIT: Becky Cantwell/LNS

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BOTTOM RIGHT: Over 15,000 demonstrators, two-thirds of whom were Third World, marched in protest against the Bakke decision in Washington D.C. on April 15, 1978.

CREDIT: LNS Graphics

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BOTTOM LEFT: The Bakke decision affects affirmative action for women as well as Third World people.

CREDIT: Sam Berdecia/Washington Square News/LNS